

Message Text

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14

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 OMB-01 ACDA-10 /107 W

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P R 121616Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4068

INFO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS ALGIERS 0674

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR AG CU

SUBJECT: CASTRO BEGINS VISIT TO ALGIERS

REF: ALGIERS 0601 (NOTAL)

1. ON MARCH 12, FIDEL CASTRO BEGAN "FRIENDLY AND WORKING VISIT" TO ALGIERS AT PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENE'S INVITATION. IN FULL AIRPORT ARRIVAL CEREMONY, BOUMEDIENE AND MEMBERS OF COUNCILS OF REVOLUTION AND MINISTERS GREETED CUBAN LEADER.

2. IN STATEMENT TO PRESS ON ARRIVAL, CASTRO PRAISED BOUMEDIENE AS GREAT WORLD LEADER. ON SAHARA, HE NOTED CUBA'S ROLE ON COMMITTEE OF 24 MISSION WHICH VISITED TERRITORY IN 1975 AND SAID "ABSOLUTE MAJORITY" OF WORLD STATES SUPPORTED SAHRAOUI SELF-DETERMINATION, A RIGHT
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WHICH, HE SAID, SAHRAOUI MUST HAVE.

3. COMMENT: GOA APPARENTLY MAKING VISIT OCCASION FOR PROPAGANDA FIELD DAY. INITIAL COMMENTARY ALREADY STRESSING IMPERIALISM'S MACHINATIONS IN AFRICA FOLLOWING SOUTHEAST ASIA DEFEAT, AND NEED TO TEACH IMPERIALISTS NEW LESSON.

4. ALGERIANS DOUBTLESS HOPE CASTRO WILL EXPRESS HIGH DEGREE OF SUPPORT FOR THEIR SAHARA POLICY AND FOR SAHRAOUI REPUBLIC. HIS REMARKS SO FAR SEEM TO STOP SHORT OF THIS.

5. WITH GIAP AND KIM IL SUNG ALREADY HAVING TOUCHED BASE HERE IN PAST YEAR, CASTRO VISIT COMPLETES HAVANA-ALGIERS-HANOI-PYONGYANG LINK. PARKER

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